STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS D E P A R T M E N T O F H E A L T H

STATE OF THODE

Safe and Healthy Lives in Safe and Healthy Communities

Date: September 6, 2005

To: All Rhode Island Health Care Providers

From: David A. Gifford, Director of Health

Ronald. A. Lebel, Acting Director of Human Services

Rhode Island is preparing to receive a group of approximately 500 people displaced by Hurricane Katrina from the Gulf Coast within the next 24 – 48 hours. Additional persons affected by the hurricane may have arrived on their own, and may continue to arrive separately. The immediate health care needs of these individuals will be addressed by the Rhode Island Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) and the Rhode Island Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). Once these individuals arrive, they will be issued an identification card. They will need follow-up medical care and to have prescriptions filled.

We ask you to accept these individuals and provide the services and the care they need as they get settled in Rhode Island. Many of them may remain in the state indefinitely. Please keep track of each individual's ID number so that when the reimbursement procedure is defined, we have accurate records to provide you with compensation.

The Department of Human Services and/or the Department of Health will contact you when details of this reimbursement procedure become available. Your patience and understanding during the next days and weeks would be greatly appreciated.